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ABSTRACT

Comprehensive school improvement is based on reorganizing and revitalizing the entire school rather than focusing on specific student populations or programs. An overview of 17 schoolwide reform programs is provided in this book. The purpose of the text is to give education leaders basic information about some of the best-known externally developed programs available. Each overview is based largely on promotional materials provided by the sponsoring organizations. The guide opens with a synopsis of the trend toward comprehensive school improvement--including notes on federal funding--and details how to choose the right comprehensive program for a school. The profiles of the 17 comprehensive school-improvement programs are offered next, with much of the information being provided in a question-and-answer format. Whether or not a school or district should design its own comprehensive school-improvement program is addressed and some essential elements of homegrown programs are discussed. The section includes information about the components researchers recommend, including those in any comprehensive model. The text concludes with strategies for successfully implementing comprehensive school-improvement programs. A list of additional resources to aid further research is given. (RJM)

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